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Agenda item 24
Culture of peace

Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, India, Philippines and Senegal: draft resolution

International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001-2010

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially the dedication to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Recalling the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that, since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997, proclaiming 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace, resolution 53/25 of 10 November 1998, proclaiming the period 2001-2010 as the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, and resolution 56/5 of 13 November 2001,

Reaffirming the Declaration[1] and Programme of Action[2] on a Culture of Peace, recognizing that they serve, inter alia, as the basis for the observance of the Decade, and convinced that the effective and successful observance of the Decade throughout the world will promote a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] which calls for the active promotion of a culture of peace,

[1] Resolution 53/243 A.
[2] Resolution 53/243 B.
[3] See resolution 55/2.

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including the dissemination of the Declaration on a Culture of Peace[1] and the Programme of Action[2] and related materials in various languages across the world;

4. *Also commends* the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund and the University for Peace, for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including the promotion of peace education and activities related to specific areas identified in the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, and requests them to continue and further strengthen and expand their efforts;[2]

5. *Encourages* civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to continue and strengthen its efforts in furtherance of the objectives of the Decade, inter alia, by adopting its own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other global and regional organizations;

6. *Also encourages* the involvement of the mass media in education for a culture of peace and non-violence, with particular regard to children and young people, including through the planned expansion of the Culture of Peace News Network as a global network of Internet sites in many languages;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue the communication and networking arrangements established during the International Year for providing an instant update of developments related to the observance of the Decade;

8. *Calls upon* Member States to observe 21 September each year as the International Day of Peace, as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/282 of 7 September 2001;

9. *Invites* Member States as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to provide information to the Secretary-General on the observance of the Decade and the activities undertaken to promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

10. *Decides* that the planned plenary meetings on the item at its sixtieth session[7] shall be organized as high-level plenary meetings during the first week of the general debate of that session, with a summary report of the proceedings to be presented by the Chair at the end of the meetings;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Culture of peace".

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[7] Resolution 55/47, para. 13.